

LANTIMES

Search LAN Times:

[Networld+Interop](#)
[Best of Show awards](#)
[CEOs Online](#)

[Content](#)
[Testing Center](#)
[Hands-on Help](#)
[LAN Times PARTS](#)
[Buyer's Directory](#)
[Channel Directions](#)
[United Airlines Video](#)

[Current Issue](#)
[Back Issues](#)

[Resources](#)
[Subscriptions](#)
[Contact Us](#)

[Privacy statement](#)

[News](#)
[TechWeb](#)
[News Flash](#)
[Audio News](#)
[Internet](#)
[Stocks/Finance](#)
[International](#)
[Macs](#)

[Software](#)
[Reviews](#)
[Shareware](#)
[Demos](#)

[The Net](#)
[NetGuide](#)
[CMPTv](#)
[Web Development](#)
[Intranets](#)

INTERNETWEEK
with LANTIMES ONLINE

Testing
Center

Hands-On
Help

LAN Times
PARTS

Buyer's
Directory

Find
Articles

► See also

- [The PC is dead; long live the PC](#)
- +
- [Jovian PCs to be portable companions](#)
- +
- [Handy on the road](#)

► Today's top stories

- [Nuclear gigabit network](#)
- + [Zeroing in on the problem](#)
- [Brief: LapLink, the next generation](#)
- + [Review: Internet Mute interMute 1.2.7](#)
- [From the Editor: Power to the people with LANs](#)
- [Perfectly acceptable](#)
- [Brief: Feed your need for network speed](#)
- + [Review: BorderManager Authentication Service](#)

COST OF OWNERSHIP

Mobile management is going places

Overlooked amid desktop administration advances, tools debut to embrace laptop systems

By Monica Snell

Managers scrambling to keep up with mobile users will soon have tools to help administer the wandering capital expenditures.

This month, XcelleNet Inc. and Callisto Software Inc. will release tools that address mobile- management black holes such as software distribution, asset monitoring, and backup. The new class of products will take into account laptop-specific issues--such as low-bandwidth links and sporadic user connections--that make the traditional desktop-management tools unsuitable for portable computers.

The products address a problem that has been largely ignored.

[Net Insider](#)

[Live Net Events](#)

[Find An ISP](#)

[Shopping](#)

[Buy Software](#)

[Buy Hardware](#)

[Buy Books](#)

[Auction](#)

[Online Guide](#)

[Shopping Primer](#)

[Resources](#)

[Trade Shows](#)

[Job Listings](#)

[Stock Quotes](#)

[Company Profiles](#)

[Tech Encyclopedia](#)

[E-mail Newsletters](#)

Sponsored by:

Please contact
websupport@cmp.com

CMPnet RESOURCES

[Home](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Search](#)

[Ad Info](#)

Until now, said Ken Dulaney, vice president of mobile computing at Gartner Group Inc., a market-research company in Stamford, Conn., "the [management software] developers only thought of the desktop and forgot about mobile computers."

"The theories and ideas for desktop management are failing in the mobile arena."

According to Gartner Group, exclusive of the network costs, companies spend about \$11,000 a year per mobile computer. With one in five PCs a notebook, mobile-management tools are sorely needed.

Out of the loop

One of the areas in which traditional desktop-management tools have been found lacking is software distribution, said Joe Flattery, senior programmer analyst for sales automation at Chanel Inc.'s fragrance and beauty line in Piscataway, N.J. "With traditional tools, when communication [between the server and laptop] is dropped you are back to square one," because the transmission must be resent from the beginning, he explained.

Mobile connections are not always faultless, so re-sending the entire package can raise communications costs as well as end-user frustration, which will lead the mobile user to stop downloading updated applications.

Flattery, who manages more than 150 mobile sales

representatives, said the users dial in to Chanel's network through a toll-free number to send in order status and account data, and to download new product and discontinued item information. In addition, the mobile users must dial in to get updates to their applications, which include Microsoft Word and Excel and Symantec Corp.'s Norton AntiVirus software. He said it is important that the main office know what is on the laptops to ensure that the information is up-to-date.

To distribute the applications and determine what files the mobile users have on their laptops, Chanel has implemented XcelleNet's Software Manager and Session Manager to install and administer the files. "The tools allow us to remotely validate the subdirectories on the machines to make sure the necessary files are there," said Flattery. In addition, Flattery used the scripting capabilities in Session Manager to create "dummy files" that are sent back to his management console to inform him when the application update has been successfully completed.

Software Manager and Session Manager are two of the new management modules XcelleNet made commercially available this month. Other management modules also expected to be released this month include its RemoteWare Inventory Manager, RemoteWare AntiVirus Manager, and RemoteWare Backup Manager management modules. These tools follow the October announcement

from the Atlanta-based company that it will shift its focus from a remote connectivity remote-management.

Tailored for travel

One of the ways XcelleNet's modules differ from desktop tools is that they incorporate compression techniques and let much of the work be conducted offline. These features are an attempt to counteract the low-bandwidth issues in a mobile environment.

For example, with Microsoft Systems Management Server (SMS), a manager would build the package in SMS, move it to a server, and then run a setup installation over the LAN, said Bob McGowan, director of product management at XcelleNet. "In a 10Mbps environment, that's not a problem, but when you're mobile [it is]," he said.

According to McGowan, RemoteWare modules send the application or anti-virus software in a compressed format and the mobile user disconnects from the LAN before the application is installed. In addition, if the transmission is interrupted, when the next session is started, the transfer picks up from where it left off.

The RemoteWare Backup Manager is also designed to function in a low-bandwidth, remote environment because it sends only information that has been altered since the last backup session.

Although pricing for all the modules is not set, the RemoteWare Software Manager will start at \$5,000 for 100 licenses.

Callisto is also planning to enter the mobile systems management market with its flagship product, Orbiter. Expected to be announced today, Orbiter provides system inventory, change analysis, and job-scheduling capabilities. It uses agent technology to let both the mobile user and the systems manager complete tasks while the computer is offline.

The job-scheduling feature, for example, lets the administrator predefine when certain tasks, such as hard drive defragmentation, should occur. Client agent software will perform the action without being connected, and the next time the user logs on, the agent sends notice to the Orbiter server that the task was completed.

In addition, trouble-shooting managers can use Orbiter to view a mobile PCs' configuration offline. The Change Analysis capability uses the agents to collect snapshots of the clients' Registry and systems files. The manager can use this information to detect changes to the system by comparing it to previous configuration views stored on the server.

Orbiter will provide software-distribution capabilities in future releases, said Paul Hartgi, president and CEO of

the Wheaton, Ill.-based company. Backup capabilities are also expected to be added to the tool, he said.

The Orbiter server is priced at \$5,000, and the clients start at \$3,750 for 25 licenses.

For more information, contact XcelleNet at (770) 804-8100, (800) 322-3366, fax (770) 804-8102;

<http://www.xcellenet.com>.

Contact Callisto at (630) 682-8200, fax (630) 682-8374;

<http://www.callisto.com>.



BACK
TO TOP



TELL US WHAT
YOU THINK



COPYRIGHT



Please contact websupport@cmp.com

US-PAT-NO: 5079628

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5079628 A

TITLE: Network system for transmitting data by radio signals

----- KWIC -----

Assignee Name - ASNM (1):

Kabushiki Kaisha Toshiba

Detailed Description Text - DETX (6):

An arrangement of each work station will be described below with reference to FIG. 2. In FIG. 2, CPU 11, main memory 12, keyboard controller 13, external memory controller 14, VRAM (video memory, image memory) 15, display circuit 16, control memory 17, and transmit/receive circuit 18 are connected to system bus 22. Antenna ANT is connected to circuit 18. Keyboard unit 19 is connected to keyboard controller 13. Plasma display panel (PDP) 2.sub.1 is connected to display circuit 16.

address detection + radio tx

abnormal time = reset (true) - i.e. nonactivation time

*Active to connect w/remote
inactive to disconnect*

5463663

5-937201

*active
turned on
turn-on
Control terminal
Command*

US-PAT-NO: 5463663

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5463663 A

TITLE: Controlling synchronization in a system having a plurality of units when a unit is disconnected from or connected to the system that is active

----- KWIC -----

Detailed Description Text - DETX (37):

The operation of the thus constructed communication control system in several cases will be described. If, for example, the main processor unit 41 is disconnected from the system that is active, it is possible to immediately transmit a control system reset signal to the main memory unit 42 and immediately transmit a system bus interface stop signal to the system bus interface circuit of each of the units 43 and 45 when a power on/reset signal (the control signal A) from the main memory unit 42 is OFF, or a power on/reset signal (the control signal B) from the main processor unit 41 is OFF prior to the complete disconnection of the main processor unit 41.

US-PAT-NO: 5237609

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5237609 A

TITLE: Portable secure semiconductor memory device

----- KWIC -----

Detailed Description Text - DETX (26):

In practicing the invention, the information latched into the respective internal and external latches 60b, 60a is compared in comparator section 60c on a bit-by-bit basis. When a match is detected, a high logic signal is provided on the output (designated A+B), and that signal is applied as a trigger input to a security comparison latch circuit 85. It is seen that the latch circuit has a reset input driven by a resistor/capacitor combination 86 which serves to reset the latch 85 whenever the card is inserted into an external terminal and external power applied to the power bus 111. After the capacitor within the combination 86 charges, the reset signal is removed. However, the latch circuit 85, whenever it is first inserted into a terminal, always starts with the Q output low due to the power-on reset function just described. The D input of the latch is maintained in the high condition, however, such that whenever the latch is triggered, the Q output will switch high. The latch 85 is preferably of the positive edge trigger type such that a positive edge occasioned by a match detected in comparator 60c will cause triggering of the latch 85 to drive the Q output thereof high. Since the Q output is connected to the line 31, it will be appreciated that the enabling signal provided on that line is sensed in the main portion 1a (see FIGS. 1 and 2) of the portable memory device to enable access to the main memory 4 by way of the interface bus 140. That condition will remain effective for so long as power continues to be applied to the card. However, after the card is removed from the terminal, the capacitor 86 will discharge, requiring a new power-on reset operation whenever the card is again inserted in a terminal, switching the Q output of latch 85 low until a valid security check is again performed.